BY J. L. PENNINGTON, & CO

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DAILY PROGRESS.

RALEIGH, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14, 1864.

WATCH FOR THE CROSS MARK.

To save our subscribers the trouble of making enquires by letter, we shall hereafter make a cross mark on the margin of the paper when the time paid for is about to expire, and if not promptly renewed the paper will be stopped. Watch for the cross mark and send on money to renew into us.

Legislative Summary.

A number of bills passed their second readings in the Senate, among them the bill to grade Common Schools, &c. The Committee on Military Affairs reported the following resolutions, offered by Mr. Pool, as a substitute for the resolutions offered by Mr. Odom, in regard to the emancipation of slaves for military services.—The Committee also had before it resolutions on the same subject introduced by Mr. Stubbs.

Resolved, That the State of North Carolina protests against the arming of slaves by the Confederate Government, in any emergency that can possibly arise, but gives its consent to their being taken and used as laborers in the public service, upon just compensation being made.

Resolved, That the provision in the Constitution of the Confederate States, which specifically forbids Congress to pass any law "impairing the right of property in negro slaves," was inserted for the special purpose of refusing to Congress the power to take them for the public use, without the consent of the States.

Resolved, That North Carolina denies the Constitutional power of the Confederate Government to impress slaves for the purpose of arming them, or preparing them to be armed in any contingency, without the consent of the States being first, freely given, and then, only according to State laws.

Resolved, That the failure of Congress to establish a Supreme Court of the Confederate States, in the face of the positive Constitutional requirement, makes it necessary for each State to decide for itself the extent and meaning of the powers delegated to the General Government.

Important resolutions were introduced in the House by Messrs. Smith and Waugh. The House will hereafter hold night sessions. We are pressed for room, and must refer the reader to the proceedings.

War Rumors.

The very air was filled with rumors yesterday. It was asserted that the enemy crossed the Blackwater and that there was skirmishing in the vicinity of Murphy's Station, on the Seaboard road, on Monday; after which the yankees are said to have returned by way of Cross Keys. We are unable to give the particulars of the affair. There was another rumor, said to be well founded, that the enemy drove our forces from Rainbow Bend, on the Roanoke, on Monday, and pushed forward, taking Col. Hinton, his adjutant and some of his men prisoners within ten miles of Tarboro. Nothing was said of the strength of the enemy, nor do we know what force we have in position to resist them. No doubt the enemy will endeavor to make the Wilmington and Weldon Railroad.

There was another rumor, said to have come by the train from Charlotte, that Sherman had crossed the Savannah river, above Savannah, which will place him upon the Charleston and Savannah Railroad; and unless he is whipped before he forms a junction with Foster's forces, Savannah will fall an easy prey.

We give these rumors as we hear them, but whether true or false we know not. We shall know the facts soon.

In noticing the election of Secretary of State the Wilmington *Journal* calls Mr. Thomas a "moderate Holdenite." We don't know what the *Jonrnal* means by this sneer, nor do we suppose that Mr. Thomas cares; but if the voting for Z. B Vance at the last August election constitutes a man a "moderate Holdenite" then Mr. Thomas is one, for he certainly cast that vote.—Mr. Thomas is not only a man of talent and ability but he is a well bred gentleman, and he will not blackguard Mr Holden and those who voted for him, or assail the loyalty of his supporters, to please the Governor, the *Journal*, or anybody else. Mr. Thomas' reputation will not suffer on account of such sneers.

The practising physicians of Wilmington have notified their *suffering* patrons, through the *Journal*, of their determination to return to old prices, to be paid in produce at old prices, or in specie or its equivalent. It is very evident that if Mr. Secretary Trenholm don't stop publishing circulars and do something to restore confidence in the currency, the time will soon come when it will not answer the purposes of business.—Many persons in Raleigh positively refuse to take it for the rent of houses for the ensuing year.

We see it stated that some of the "personal friends" of the Editor of the Savannah *News* have presented him with a suit of new clothes. We take this occasion to say that if any of our "personal friends" should extend a similar compliment to us we will by no means become offended.

The able speech of Mr. Phillips, which we present in this issue, will well repay a careful perusal. Mr. Phillips ranks among the ablest gentlemen in the House of Commons.

A squad of twenty federal prisoners, from Sherman's army, arrived at Augusta last Friday evening.

THE DAILY PROGRESS.

VOL. VI. RALEIGH. WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14, 1864 NO. 28

WAR NEWS.

FROM GEORGIA AND SOUTH CAROLINA.

SHERMAN'S MARCH.

We have a Savannah paper of Friday and Augusta papers of Sunday but they throw but little light upon Sherman's movements We make such extracts from them as are of most interest

The *Chronicle and Sentinel* of Sunday says:

We learn from pasengers by the S. C. R. R that a fight occurred near Coosawhatchie yesterdaya, nd that so far as heard from, the advantage was on the side of the enemy. We trust our troops were able to hold their own.

Telegraphic communication was interrupted early yesterday morning, between Charleston and Savannah, and had not been resumed up to a late hour last night.

The Savannah *Republican* of Friday has the following:

Yesterday developed no movement on the part of the enemy worthy of special notice. They move slowly, and seem at a loss to know which way to go. All was quiet on the Carolina road. Foster's motley crew appear to have undertaken a little more than they can perform.

The following appeal from the Mayor of Savannah shows that the defences were not considered complete, and also leads us to infer that an attack upon the city was expected:

MAYOR'S OFFICE,
Savannah, December 9, 1864.

Fellow Citizens: There is the most urgent necessity for Men and Axes, to finish certain points of defence. In compliance with a request from headquarters, I call upon every family to send a servant with an axe to the Oglethrope barracks, at nine o'clock this morning. Each negro will be returned with his axe at night. The labor will not be required longer than Saturday. The men and axes will be taken care of and returned on Saturday night. Each negro must be supplied with rations for each day.

R. D. ARNOLD, Mayor.

The Savannah News has the following intelligence from the coast:

Day before yesterday the enemy again made an attempt to take the Charleston and Savannah Railroad, but were repulsed and beaten back. They were reinforced and renewed the attack yesterday morning, and fighting continued nearly all day, and had not ceased last night at dark. Our forces had driven back every assault and the enemy had made no progess whatever. It is no doubt a determined effort on the part of Foster to open a way for Sherman to escape. Let him rip away.

The Charleston Courier has the annexed item:

Sherman's army is reported still moving towards Savannah. We learn that the affair at station No. 2 on Thursday was simply some slight skirmishing. The opinion seems to prevail that Sherman intends to attack Savaunah, but if he attempts it he will be badly defeated A report was in circulation yesterday that, on the arrival of his forces at No. 2, he had turned off in the direction of Sister's Ferry, which would indicate an intention to cross into South Carolina. The enemy near Pocotaligo were reported shelling the road on Friday. About one hundred prisoners from Sherman's army arrived in the city yesterday.

From the above it would appear that fighting was going on along the Charleston and Savannah road on Saturday, and most probably, also in front of the city; and if we accept these suppositions as true we may reasonably infer that Sherman's fate is sealed before this time. He must have either made a base, at Savannah or on the coast, or been disastrously defeated.

FROM THE SOUTHWEST—HOOD'S VICTORY, &C.

TELEGRAMS THAT DID NOT COME THROUGH.

Owing to the breaks in the wires in Georgia, we have been cut off from all the advantages of the Press Dispatches from the Southwest. We copy some that come to us in our Southern exchanges:

TUSCUMBIA, Dec. 4.—The following is a statement of Rev. Mr. Browning, just from the army of Tennessee.

A fight took place on the 30th ult. between our forces and the enemy at Harpeth Creek, near Franklin, in which the enemy was routed from his breastworks, leaving 4,000 killed and wounded and 6,000 prisoners. Cheatham's corps were principally engaged. The enemy are falling back to Murfreesboro'. Forrest is reported to be at Brentwood, between the enemy and Nashville.

The gallant and heroic Maj. Gen. Patrick Cleburne was killed, also Brig. Gens. Granberry, Strahl, Gist and Gordon; Gen. J. C Brown slightly wounded and Quarles mortally. Our loss represented to be about 3,500. The enemy are said to be concentrating at Murfreesboro'.

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF TENNESSEE, COLUMBIA, Nov. 28, via Bartow, Dec. 3.—The enemy evacuated Columbia last night and are retreating on Nashville.

Our army is in good health and most excellent spirits, and are vigorously pressing the enemy's rear, while Forrest will harrass his front and flanks.

Supplies are abundant, and the people are delighted beyond measure at our return.

The Tennessee regiments will be filled.

ISHAM G HARRIS.

YANKEE RAID IN LOUISIANA.

OSYKA, Dec. 1.—A Yankee raiding force of at least 5000 cavalry, with twelve pieces of artillery and ninety-six loaded wagons, eight with pontoons, and commanded by Gen. Davidson, reached Tangipahoa from Baton Rouge at two o'clock yesterday morning.

Last evening, after burning the conscript camp and some outbuildings, gutting the stores, pillaging the inhabitants, and burning bridges, they left in the direction of Franklinton, La., which is the direct route to Pearl river

They carried off with them Capt. Murray, the enrolling officer, the postmaster, Williams, the hotel-keeper, and all the citizens they could catch young or old.

Some of their pillaging was very brutal.

There were no forces of ours to retard them in any way.

Their destination is unknown, though they themselves positively said it was Mobile. Their horses have appeared much jaded. All is uncertain and conjecture as to their future movements.

CANTON, Nov. 28.—Three regiments of Yankees, (two white and one colored) with artillery, appeared at the railroad bridge near Vaughan's station on yesterday, at three o'clock p. m., and were held in check an hour and a half by a handful of militia and furloughed soldiers, who were finally compelled to fall back, with the loss of Wm. Nichols killed.

The enemy did not burn the bridge, but cut down about twenty-five feet of it. They camped near Vaughan's last night, moving on Pickens and Goodman stations this morning.

Large fires were seen in the west last night. Troops are in pursuit with a prospect of cutting off the enemy

LATER.

CANTON, Nov. 28, 5. P. M.—A scout just in reports the enemy at Pickens destroying the railroad track.

Of Hood's victory in Tennessee, the Macon *Telegraph* says:

The whole country will rejoice at the victory gained by Hood. The loss of ten thousand men by the enemy, cannot but seriously cripple his strength as well as demoralize, to a great extent, his remaining force. The battle was fought in a State where the moral effect of a victory to our arms will be great.—Tennessee has been for so long under the foot of the foe, that the hope of release was daily growing fainter and the hearts of the people were growing sick with hope deferred. This victory of Hood will rouse them like the blast of a trumpet and double the number lost in the battle will be added to our army.

The loss of the heroic Cleburne and the other gallant officers and men who fell in this fight, muffles the shouts of joy which would otherwise be heard all over the South at this triumph of our arms. They have gone to join the thousands of martyrs who have already fallen, and though we mourn their loss, it is consoling to know that they have not died in vain.

More than half of Tennessee has been redeemed and it is more than probable that the whole of the State will, ere long, be in our possession. The loss of Nashville will compel the enemy to retreat into Kentucky and we have good reason for hoping that that city will shortly fall into the hands of its rightful owners. The sun of Victory is again gilding the banners of the army of Tennessee.

FROM KINSTON—THE YANKEES REPULSED.

The following dispatch, official to General Holmes, appeared in the *Confederate* yesterday morning:

KINSTON, Dec. 12, 1864.—Having been reinforced, I left the breastworks at day-light to find the enemy. I discovered him in considerable force on Neuse road, two mile from town. He showed two pieces of artillery and five or six hundred infantry After a brisk engagement of thirty minutes, he was driven across South-west bridge, destroying it behind him Our cavalry and infantry are still pressing him.

(Signed) J. B STARR,
Lt. Col. Com'g

CITY AND STATE NEWS.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.—Thomas E. Steele—School for small children.

J. S. Leach—Negro hiring.

Two Houses for Rent—Apply at this office; also house for rent in Greensboro, N. C.

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS AND DONORS OF THE N. C. ORPHAN ENDOWMENT FUND.—We invite the attention of the Donors and Directors of the North Carolina Orphan Endowment Fund, to the meeting to be held at the basement of the Baptist Church, in this city, on to-morrow, (Thursday,) December 15th. A full attendance of Donors and Directors is desirable

RAILROAD ACCIDENTS.—We learn that there was a collision on the R. & G. Railroad on Saturday night, by which three engines were more or less damaged. Fortunately no lives were lost and but one person, a negro, injured. His injuries, we believe, were not serious.

There is a smash up of some kind reported on the N. C. Railroad somewhere in the vicinity of High Point, as occurring on Sunday or Monday, but we are without particulars. We hope it was not serious.

The Supreme Court commenced its winter Term in this city on yesterday A number of gentlemen of the bar from different parts of the State are in attendance.

A PATRIOTIC COUNTY.—The citizens of Onslow assembled in Public Meeting, on December 6th inst., and organized by calling Dr. E. W. Ward to the chair and D A. Humphrey to act as Secertary. Upon motion, the chair appointed the following gentlemen to draft resolutions expressive of the sense of the meeting: L W Harget, C Stephens, H. King, D Russell, T B Holland, D W Simmons, J G Scott, E Farnell, G Shepard and S Jones, whereupon the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, In the present distressed condition of our country, it behooves us to meet the emergency as best we can; we, the citizens of the county of Onslow, have this day assembled in public meeting, for the purpose of inaugurating some means of relief, and have adopted the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1. That we shall sell all agricultural and other products which we may have to dispose of, at Government prices, as arranged in Schedule by the Commissioners of appraisement, provided, that a majority of the counties of the State will do the same.

Resolved, 2. That the chair appoint one delegate from each district in the county as delegates to represent us in convention at such time and place as will meet the approbation of the other counties.

Resolved, 3. That if the schedule referred to, be not adopted, then we recommend some uniform and low grade of prices.

Resolved, 4. That we invite the co-operation of the manufacturers and other classes of industry, in effecting the object of this meeting by a corresponding reduction of prices.

LEGISLATIVE PROCEEDINGS.

SENATE.

TUESDAY, Dec. 13, 1864.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

Propositions and Grievances.—Against the passage of a bill exempting property of orphans from taxation.

Joint Select Committee.—In favor of the passage of the bill for the relief of Power, Lowe & Co. Also recommend the passage of a substitute, offered by Mr. Pool, in place of Mr. Odom's resolutions protesting against the emancipation of slaves for military services.

Corporations.—Favorably upon the following bills: a bill to incorporate the Cranberry Iron Works, a bill to incorporate the ——— Iron Company; a bill to increase the capital stock of the Sapona Iron Company.

BILL INTRODUCED.

Mr. Warren, a bill to amend an act to authorize the Governor to issue commissions for holding courts of Oyer and Terminer.

BILLS ETC., ON THEIR SECOND READINGS.

A bill to authorize the Governor to remove State forces beyond the limits of the State. Informally passed over.

A bill to extend the time for perfecting titles to lands heretofore entered. Passed, rule suspended, and passed 3d reading.

A bill to authorize the Secretary of State to employ a clerk. Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

A bill to amend an act in regard to the distillation of spirituous liquor. Passed.

A bill in relation to alimony. Passed.

A bill to repeal an act to prevent obstructions in Big Swamp. Passed.

A bill to authorize the payment of a bounty of $50 to citizens enlisting in the naval service. Passed.

A bill to incorporate the Confederate Joint Stock Publishing Company. Passed.

A bill for the relief of R. M. Jones, of Orange county. Passed.

A bill to incorporate Stokesburg Lodge of Masons. Informally passed over.

A bill to keep in repair the Western Turnpike Road. Passed.

A resolution in reference to the employment of certain persons assigned to light duty. Adopted.

MISCELLANEOUS.

On motion of Mr. Dick, the bill to grade Common Schools and increase their usefulness was taken up, and passed its 2d reading.

Mr. Wiggins moved to reconsider the vote by which the Senate yesterday concurred in the House amendment fixing the pay of members. The Speaker decided the motion out of order, it being after 12 o'clock. From this decision Mr. Long appealed; and the question being "Shall the decision of the Chair stand?" Mr. Strange called for the ayes and noes. The decision was sustained by a vote of 40 to 2.

On motion of Mr. Bryan, the resolutions in relation to the brigading of certain N. C. Regiments were taken up and adopted.

Adjourned.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

TUESDAY, Dec. 13, 1864.

The House was called to order at 10 o'clock, A. M.

Journal of yesterday was read and approved.

Messrs. Cunningham, McAden, Clapp and Patterson were allowed to record their votes in the *affirmative* on the resolutions, passed on yesterday, in relation to the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*.

Mr. Baxter was permitted to record his vote in the *negative* on the same question.

Mr. Grissom introduced a resolution in favor of Drury King, which passed its several readings under a suspension of the rules.

Mr. Shepherd, resolution of thanks to Col. Joseph B. Starr and his command for their gallantry in repulsing on the 12th instant, an advance of the enemy upon Kinston Adopted.

Mr. Herbert, a resolution instructing an inquiry by the Committee on Claims, as to the propriety of paying for horses belonging to the Home Guard of Clay county, which have been captured by the enemy. Adopted.

Mr. Smith, of Johnston, introduced the following, which took their place on the calendar, viz: resolutions in relation to illegal impressments.

WHEREAS, persons calling themselves agents of the Confederate Government are impressing provisions in violation of the laws? Therefore be it

Resolved, That the Governor of North Carolina is hereby directed to cause all such persons to be arrested and bound over for trial to the first term of the Superior Court of the county in which such illegal impressment may have been made.

Resolved, That the violation of the impressment laws passed by Congress is hereby made a misdemeanor, and upon conviction the offender shall be fined and imprisoned not less than thirty days

Resolved, When any impressment of provisions is so made as not to leave a sufficiency for the support of the owner and his family, the offender shall be further liable to a penalty of one thousand dollars, to be sued for by the party injured.

In presenting these resolutions, Mr. Smith denounced, in no measured terms, the illegal exactions of impressing officers in Johnston county, and announced the purpose on the part of his constituents, to resist such aggressions should the civil authority be powerless to afford redress and immunity in future.

Mr. Waugh introduced the following resolutions relative to the suspension of the privileges of the writ of *habeas corpus*, viz:

Resolved, That all acts of Congress suspending the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus*, so as to deny to persons claiming exemption from military service, the right of judicial inquiry into their cases through that writ, being unconstitutional and void, the Governor is hereby directed to see that all laws in favor of persons claiming the right of the writ, or the benefit of a discharge when made by the judiciary, shall be rigidly enforced, and that if any cases occur where his authority in these matters shall be disregarded, he report the same to the next session of the Legislature. Referred to the Committee on Confederate Relations.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS.

Mr. Love, introduced a bill to amend an act to provide for a Turnpike Road from Salisbury, west, to the line of the State of Georgia. Referred.

Mr. Fowle, a bill to incorporate the Deep River Turnpike Company.

The resolution introduced by Mr. Waugh, on yesterday, in relation to the sessions of the House was amended after discussion, and was finally adopted as follows:

Resolved, That from and after Wednesday next, this House shall commence its morning session at 10 o'clock, A. M., and after its morning session shall meet at 7 o'clock P. M.

The House proceeded to consider a bill to be entitled the Revenue Act. Pending the reading of the bill by sections, the House adjourned until to-morrow morning 10 o'clock.

We are yet without a mail from Richmond, the mail matter which we should have received yesterday having been carried by here and on to Goldsboro.

ADVERTISING RATES.

The following rates will be charged for all advertisements inserted in the *Daily* and *Weekly Progress*:

ONE SQUARE OF EIGHT LINES, OR LESS.

One day	$3 00	One week	$18 00
Two days	6 00	Two weeks	36 00
Three days	9 00	Three weeks	54 00
Four days	12 00	One month	72 00
Five days	15 00	Two months	144 00

Fifty words, or eight lines or less, count a square, and additional squares will be charged the same. Advertisements inserted once, twice or three times a week will be charged $4 a square for every insertion.

When sent by letter, the money must accompany the advertisement. Marriages, Deaths, Religious and other Notices charged as advertisements, and must be paid in advance.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS FOR THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1864, by J. S. Thrasher in the Clerk's Office of the District Court of the Confederate States of the Northern District of Georgia.

Later from the North.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Washington "Chronicle" of Sunday received.

A Nashville telegram of the 10th says the Federal loss in the battle of Franklin is ascertained by official reports at one hundred and ten officers and two thousand and fifteen men killed, wounded and missing. Scouts report Hood about to make a movement of some sort.

The rebels can be plainly seen from the front of the fourth corps standing about the camp fires.

Hostilities have ceased on account of the weather.

A furious snow storm prevailed at the North on Saturday.

Gen. Danna's expedition from Vicksburg destroyed the Mississippi Central Railroad for thirty miles above Big Lick Crossing. Twenty-five hundred bales of cotton were also destroyed.

Gold 234.

Congressional.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Senate has passed the bill to authorize transmission of newspapers to soldiers free of postage. Also passed a bill for the employment of all free negroes and forty thousand slaves to work upon fortifications and perform other labor connected with the defence of the country.

Gen. Joseph E. Johnston occupied the privilege of a seat in the Senate Chamber to day.

In the House the sequestration and currency bills were farther discussed.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—The Senate passed a concurrent resolution for a recess from the 24th inst. until the 2d January.

Mr. Orr, from the Committee on Foreign Affairs, reported back Mr. Henry's resolutions defining the position of the Confederate States and declaring the determination of Congress and the people thereof to prosecute the war till their independence is acknowledged. The resolutions passed. Yeas 16, nays none.

In the House the sequestration and currency bills were discussed.

A bill passed increasing the pay of members of Congress fifty per cent.

Several bills were reported and ordered to be printed.

From Richmond.

RICHMOND, Dec. 13.—An official dispatch from Lee today says the expedition to Belfield under Warren returned within the enemy's lines yesterday. The two divisions of the 9th corps which went to Warren's relief proceeded no farther than Beecher's mills. On meeting the returning column it turned back.

On returning from Belfield the enemy moved rapidly by the Jerusalem and Sussex C H roads. Our troops, therefore, only encountered their rear guards, and pursued them no farther than Nottoway river. They have returned to camp, bringing in a few prisoners. Our loss very slight. The Superintendent of the railroad reports about six miles of the track torn up.

BENEFIT OF ADVERSITY.—A smooth sea never made a skillfull mariner. Neither does uninterrupted prosperity and success qualify us for usefulness or happiness. The storms of the ocean, rouse the faculties and excite the invention, prudence, skill and fortitude of the voyager.

REMOVAL.—It is announced that the "Atlanta Intelligencer" is on its way to Atlanta to resume publication in that city.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

School
FOR SMALL CHILDREN.

A SCHOOL FOR SMALL CHILDREN, FROM 3 to 5 o'clock P. M. daily, at the place of residence, on Harget street. Terms will be made satisfactory.
Dec 14 3t THOMAS E STEELE

For Rent.

TWO VERY NICE HOUSES, TWO ROOMS EACH, smokehouse, kitchen and sufficient ground for a nice garden attached to each Information given at this office Dec 12, 1-d*

NEGRO
Hiring.

THE NEGROES BELONGING TO MISS ANNA J. MAYNARD will be hired out at Oxford, January 1st, 1865
Dec 14-d4tw2t* J S LEACH, Executor

For Rent.

A HOUSE AND LOT, PLEASANTLY SITUATED in the town of Greensboro. The house contains seven rooms and fire places, good double kitchen, and all other out-buildings, and a No 1 well of water in the yard For further particulars apply at this office, or to S P MENDE, HALL, Greensboro, N C Dec 14-d1w*

TAX IN KIND.

THE ASSESSORS FOR WAKE COUNTY WILL BE in Raleigh on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of each week in November and December, for the purpose of assessing the tax in kind of Corn, Fodder, Molasses, Sugar, Peas, Beans Ground Peas, &c.

We want every good citizen to give in for the soldiers' wives, ladies and infirm persons of their neighborhoods.

Those who have not listed their Wheat, Oats, Rye, Hay and Wool, can also list at the above times.

F. G. FONTE, }
NATHAN IVEY. } Assessors.
Nov 21-d2w&wtd

WOOL NOTICE.

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT,
Raleigh, June 3, 1864.

I AM NOW PREPARED TO EXCHANGE COTTON Yarn, for Wool, upon the following terms, viz:

One bunch of Yarn for three pounds washed Wool, and one bunch for four pounds unwashed.

Agents have been appointed to make the exchange at the following places: Oxford, Fayetteville, Statesville, Roxboro', Asheville, Hillsboro', Louisburg, Fayettevil e, Colerain, and at this place.

Persons shipping wool to this place will please mark on the package who they are from and the cotton yarn will be forwarded immediately.

I hope the people will patriotically respond to the above notice, as the Wool is for clothing the N. C. Troops.

H. A. DOWD, A. Q. M., N. C. A.
July 2-d&wtf

DAILY PROGRESS.

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 14, 1864.

CORRESPONDENCE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, Dec. 6, 1864.

S. F. Phillips, Esq.:—

DEAR SIR:—Your friends are anxious to see the substance of your speech to-day in print, and the wholesome truths it contained disseminated among the people.

Please furnish us with a full report of it at as early a day as your convenience will allow.

Very respectfully,
Your obedient servants,
D. M. CARTER,
A. C. COWLES,
EUGENE GRISSOM,
THOS. A. ALLISON,
R. S. DONNELL,
DAN'L. G. FOWLE,
M. McGEHEE.

HOUSE OF COMMONS, 6th Dec., 1864.

Col. Carter and others:

GENTLEMEN:—I will comply with your request within a day or two.

Thanking you for the compliment you have paid me, and wishing the speech were more worthy of it, I am, very truly,

Your friend and servant,
S. F. PHILLIPS.

SPEECH OF SAMUEL F. PHILLIPS, ESQ., OF ORANGE,

In the House of Commons of North-Carolina, Tuesday December 6th, 1864, on the subject of Impressments.

MR. SPEAKER:—

Recent occurrences in the county of Orange have suggested to me the propriety of introducing the resolutions which have just been read. I do not mean to say that Orange has suffered more from the action of agents for impressments than the other counties of the State, but the *recency* of that action among my constituents rendered it proper that *I* should call the attention of the Legislature to it.

The preamble to those resolutions asserts truths which no intelligent gentleman upon this floor, whether lawyer or not, will deny. I shall not trouble the House with an argument upon them. The first of the resolutions which follow, makes allegations which, if true, are palpable violations of the rights asserted in the preamble. The only question which arises upon that resolution is as to its truth.—And, upon this question, I might perhaps make a witness of every gentleman upon this floor. For I can hardly doubt that every one here has been so far personally cognizant of facts going to establish this point that he might be called as a witness to establish it before a court and jury.

Within the last two weeks an agent of the Confederate States has impressed in the county of Orange 160 horses and mules at an average price, as I was informed by an officer of the government engaged in the transaction, of about $700 each. I enquired of the same gentleman what was the average market value of the animals thus taken, and was answered "at least $2,100 each." It appears, then, that by this single operation, the Confederate States' government has forcibly seized for its own use more than $300,000 worth of property; and left in the hands of its owners little scraps of brown paper, promising to pay at some indefinite period about $100,000! In simple language, it is a transaction by which that government has possessed itself of $200,000 worth of property without paying a single dollar of equivalent! It has, by its agents, acting under a regularly organized system, *robbed* certain persons whom those agents have selected within the county referred to, of $200,000. The county which I have the honor, in part, to represent in this House, makes up a Senatorial district, and contains about *one-fiftieth* of the property in the State. Doing these impressment agents the justice to suppose that they have been impartial in their visits to the various sections of the State, the House will see that they have in the item of horses and mules robbed the State of some $10,000,000 worth of property. I mean to say that in the name and under the machinery of the Confederate government, they have overawed certain citizens of North-Carolina into delivering to that government property worth $15,000,000, at a nominal price of $5,000,000. This action comes fully up to my conception of the idea contained in the word *robbery*.

If the action which has recently taken place in Orange county were the consequence of the presumption of a subordinate agent of the government, it were more easily tolerated than now. Or if it arose from the occasionally irregular working of the machinery of that government it might be better borne. That it is part of the settled policy of the Confederate States, and the regular and intended effect of certain acts of Congress is that which gives this action its peculiar unpleasantness, and makes it the more imperative for this Legislature to utter its remonstrance and protest. When wrong is done under the color of law, it becomes most dangerous.

I hold in my hand a pamphlet containing the "General Orders" issued to the army from Richmond, from which it appears that this subject of impressment has occupied the attention of the government for several years. As early as the month of June, 1862, an order was issued regulating this subject. Some months afterwards it appears by another order that great complaints had been made to the government in relation to it. The complaints compelled Congress, about the month of April, 1863, to pass an act upon the subject, a great part of which is still in force. That act [illegible] officers impress property [illegible] of its producer, two referees (with liberty to select an umpire) shall be chosen by the officer and the owner respectively, and they shall settle the price to be paid; where the property is not in the hands of the producer, but of a man who holds it for sale, the price to be paid by government shall be regulated by the schedule prices fixed by the Commissioners appointed for making the schedule. This difference between the producer and the other classes was maintained, however, for but a few days, as another act, passed before the 1st of May, 1863, provided that in all cases of impressment the impressing officer might endorse upon the award of the referees his disapproval, whereupon an appeal would lie to the Commissioners upon schedule prices. As these persons had already appraised property of the sort in dispute, it is clear that the practical operation of these laws in either case is to give the owner only schedule prices. For instance, in the case of a horse, the owner may always be sure that if he choose to make ever so much opposition it will result in his getting only the price of one or another of the classes under the schedule. A paper now in hand, being a warning to a gentleman in Orange that the government agent wished to buy a horse, makes this evident, for the proposal made by him is *expressly* to buy it at *schedule* prices, the penalty being an impressment. Of course such an officer would never approve an award by referees giving a greater price. He would appeal until he brought it where it was certain that none but schedule prices would be given. So well, indeed, is this understood, that, as I was informed, the referees at Hillsboro' confined themselves to assigning the horses to one or another of the classes in the last schedule. And, as might well have been anticipated, in the whole assembly of irritated and outraged citizens, no one took *an appeal*.

In discussing this matter I am not to be cheated with words. I press through them into the substance of this transaction; and I gather the intention of government from the uniform action of its agents through a period of years, and after its attention has confessedly again and again been called to the subject. What was done in my own county in November, 1864, has been done (and often in a much more galling manner) in other counties and other States, in the Spring and Fall of 1862—in the Spring and Fall of 1863, and in the Spring and Fall of 1864; and that which has been cited in regard to horses, has been done time and again in regard to wheat, corn, cattle and many other articles of property. I am not then to be abused by having pointed to my attention that the act of Congress provides in terms for a "just compensation." I reply that the act, after using these smooth words, inaugurates a system of proceedings which never has given the citizens that compensation of which it speaks. It of purpose keeps the word of promise to the ear, and breaks it to the hope. Throughout the whole State, and so far as I am informed throughout the whole country, its operation has been uniform. It cannot be that such uniformity of action among many different persons who have no opportunity for consultation, has not been dictated by the common source of their appointment—I mean the government. Mr. Memminger and Mr. Trenholm, who have tried one wild experiement after another upon the currency, make use of these commissioners of schedule prices in the course of these experiments; and the instructions under which they act are to depress prices to a standard in accordance with some flighty notion these gentlemen entertain as to the value of Confederate Treasury notes. They are making their experiments at the expense of those persons whose property they impress. Upon what show of propriety is this done? If the currency have depreciated because it is too abundant, experiments to raise its value should be tried at the general expense of the whole country. The method by which those experiments are to be made is taxation. No constitutional principle can be more axiomatic than this. The constitution prohibits all such trifling with private rights under the head of impressments, by stipulating on behalf of the citizens for a "just compensation." What an outrage, then, upon that constitution, is it for the Confederate Government to suggest to its commissioners as part of their duty in fixing impressment prices, to consult other influences than the general market value of an article! What a mixture of absurdity and grievous oppression is it to make private persons whose property is taken by government, contribute far above their proportion towards establishing a state of things, the benefits of which belong to the public in general! Our indignation would rise all the higher did we fully appreciate the fancifulness and the eccentricity displayed in those experiments. The variety of their plans, and the solemn censure which one philosopher passes upon the unsuccessful experiments of his predecessor, carry the memory back to the age of the alchemists, and their marvellous endeavors to transmute the baser metals into gold. But it is not necessary in this argument to insist upon that—it is most plain that even if these experiments resulted in success, they should be made at the expense of the whole community.

I am not understood as denying to the government the right to seize private property whenever needed for its use. It has a perfect right to do so. The point upon which I have insisted is that it must pay just compensation therefor. It must pay for such property, all that a private person would have to pay for it. The government has only one advantage in such matter over the citizen who wishes to buy. It can compel a sale. But it cannot force upon the owner a less price than his neighbors would have given, had he been disposed to sell.

I insist that the Confederate States cannot practice *taxation* under the name of *impressment*. This they have been doing repeatedly; and thereby have broken their constitutional obligations not only upon the subject of a just compensation, but also upon that which apportions taxation. In the case which I have referred to in Orange county, if the government had levied a tax upon the owners of the property taken to the amount of $224,000, they could have sold the property that was impressed, paid the tax, and upon that retained in their pockets in cash the amount of money for which they have now a government promise to pay whenever the Secretary of the Treasury shall think it a *good financial expedient* to issue the notes required for the purpose. Looking, then, through words to things, we have before us a most unconstitutional and flagrantly oppressive tax levied upon certain people in the county of Orange—*an unconstitutional and flagrantly oppressive tax!* which has been levied time and again in regard to various articles of property upon citizens throughout most of the counties of the State.

It is not proper that the representatives of the people shall view these things in silence. After more than two years have passed since the inauguration of the system, surely it is not *too soon* for the Legislature of North-Carolina to express its opinion of it in plain and vigorous language. This matter of the security of private property from the touch of government is a *point of honor* in the peculiar civil liberty which we inherit from our ancestors in England and upon this continent. Far back in English history, and from the very beginning of our own history, this has been considered a point of vital importance. We shall be recreant to our great public privileges, if we do not brand the assault which is now making upon this, their very point of honor, in that free language which it is our right and duty to employ. John Hampden resisted the whole power of the English government in the case of Ship Money, when the assessment was only a matter of twenty shillings, and at that less than his ratable share of the tax, supposing that it were legal. For that he has become immortal with us. In this State the government has as yet met with no lawful resistance of these demands.—This acquiescence is not upon the score of patriotism, for the people are indignant at the oppression. I know in my own county of gentlemen of most approved patriotism, whose eyes flashed fire at the thought of what had been done. It is idle to talk of a free people *loving* a government which robs them of their property. The Confederate government has only to persist in this course towards Southern men, and it will surely lose every vestige of their affection. They would be unworthy of their lineage and of their education if it were otherwise. They must forget many of the martyrs of their former liberty; they must become cold to many of the most touching incidents in the history of their race, before they cease instinctively to turn upon any organization of power that trifles with their private property.

As to the character of the remedy possessed by the people in cases of unconstitutional impressments by government *directly for itself*, I observe some difference of opinion between two of the ablest lawyers this continent has produced. Chancellor Kent regards it as the right and the duty of the citizen to *enjoin* the government; Chief Justice Ruffin regards such injunction impracticable, and says that the duty of Congress to give just compensation for property impressed is of that class of powers which the judiciary cannot enforce, but which must be "left" to the understanding and conscience of Congress. I submit to the House that whichever opinion shall be considered law, the Legislature is imperatively called upon for action, at least like that presented by the resolutions.

If it be that a person whose property has been impressed has this remedy of injunction, let us consider how significant a thing it is that in the midst of a spirited people, indignant at a notorious violation of their rights—a repeated violation in substantial respects—no one has been found to apply for this remedy! To what shall we attribute this inaction? I know of but one explanation; and that is, despair of successfully contending with the government, or the apprehension that if they succeed they may draw down upon themselves the malice of the myriad of officials that swarm in this land, and whose wrath would produce effects greatly overbalancing their gain by the litigation. For the rest, they remember that they have appealed to the Confederate government time and again without result, or if with result, the result of rendering the system of impressment more rigid and severe. If this apathy and sullen despair have taken possession of our people, let the voice of this Legislature go forth like the blast of a trumpet to arouse and reassure them. Let it be to them what the example of Hampden was to the thousands of true Englishmen who had submitted to the ship money tax—a point for them to rally around! Hampden did not inquire whether he would offend the menials of royal power about the year 1630; if there be such fear in North-Carolina in 1864, having for its object the subordinates of the Confederate government, let us do what we may for its dissipation. Civil liberty is no weed springing spontaneously from the soil in favored regions. Its bright, consummate flower is the result of many ages of attention and skill. If it be not cultivated it will surely degenerate, and come to nothing. Upon any appearance of its decay in North-Carolina, it becomes us, who are in great measure its custodians here, at least to tend and water that fair plant whose beauty has been derived from the care and wisdom of those who have preceded us.

If, however, it be accepted that the citizen has no remedy in the process of the Courts, the remedy which this Legislature can give by a firm protest, to be followed, if disregarded, by such action as will enforce obedience to its wishes, is all that is left to our constituents. I have already said that the Confederate government has published record evidence that it pays little attention to the complaints of the citizens upon this topic. We will not refer them to that again. We will speak our own mind upon the subject, and we will take care that it shall be respected. North-Carolina's wisdom in all matters pertaining to this war has been too well ascertained for any solemn words of hers to fall unheeded upon the "understanding and conscience" of the government. She has proved herself to be wise in council, and resolute in the field. What she says in behalf of the rights of her people will be heeded.

There is another topic in connection with this general question which deserves a notice. Some days ago this House was startled by the announcement of the Public Treasurer that he would require some $9,000,000 to defray the expenses of the current year. The idea of imposing a tax upon the people fourfold greater than that of the last year, was frightful. It was well calculated to amaze legislators accustomed to the arithmetic of former years. Yet we see in the instance before us, the Confederate government snatching from the people in one article an amount greater than that, the thought of which had thrown us into such confusion. And when we consider the amount of other property thus seized, we may well remonstrate at the serious diminution which has been occasioned in the means of the people to support their State government. This very action of the Confederate States goes far to increase the discredit of the securities of the State. If the Confederate government had paid a "just compensation" only to the owners of horses and mules for so much of that property as it has impressed, there would have been more than a sufficiency of additional means among us to pay the demands upon the State treasury during the next year.

I shall detain the House very briefly in discussing the merits of the other resolutions which I have introduced. Whilst indignant upon this subject of impressment, I thought it a proper occasion for the State to show itself not unobservant of, and not satisfied with the general course of legislation in Congress upon other matters connected with our liberty. Among these I would specify particularly the suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus*; the cry for *details*, instead of exemptions; and the scheme of placing *armed slaves* in our army. It may be said that the Confederate States ought not to be censured in the two latter respects, as it has not yet adopted either policy. I submit that we will not act prematurely in censuring projects which have already received the approbation, at least contingent and qualified, of the head of the goverment. I understand that large armies frequently make their advances upon the position of the enemy by degrees. One corps moves forward and takes its position, and then another makes a corresponding movement, and the movement of the whole is an aggregate of the movements of each department. It seems enough to me to detect a movement against our rights by one part of the government. That is the proper time for objection and opposition to the direction and character of the movement; and judging by our past experience of other departments of the government becoming gradually *educated* to the President's standard, it appears correct enough even now to stigmatize the steps taken by him as inchoate steps of the administration.

There are other acts of the Confederate government to which reference is made in this resolution. Of all such acts, whether specified here or not, I submit to this House that such is our sense, that, having been always free ourselves—having sprung from free generations in other lands, and from generations whose freedom North-Carolina has nurtured during a century upon this soil—we reflect upon them with profound agitation!

The third resolution utters a truth which is apparent to every one. It is not only in regard to impressments, but it is in many other respects, that the experiments of the Confederate government upon the temper of North-Carolina *have increased, and are increasing!* The apprehensions of all thinking men are thoroughly aroused upon this subject. If such experiments have increased and are increasing, then most assuredly they ought to be diminished, and indeed come speedily to a full end.

It has always been my desire that the government of the Confederate States should enjoy liberally every power that is expressly or impliedly vested in it by the Constitution, especially in this time of pressing war. I have endeavored to make my private and public conduct and counsel conform to this standard; but I cannot believe that it is to the advantage of rulers or people that it should be indulged in unconstitutional and oppressive courses of action. If the *Southern whiteman* cannot obtain independence in the employment of constitutional methods of vindicating that independence, it is because Heaven has denied to him the boon.

[In reply to Mr. Shepherd, who had remarked upon the application of the words *red* and *oppose* to the action of the Confederate States in reference to impressments; and who had protested against the general tone of the Resolutions and the foregoing speech, on the ground that Mr. Davis is *our* President and the Confederate States *our* government, Mr. Phillips said:]

Mr. Speaker: If the action of the Confederate States has produced the result which I have attributed to it; and if that action has been repeated and deliberate, then it involves necessarily the very idea contained in the words which I have used. I have no hesitation in repeating that any such unconstitutional action of the government in seizing private property, as has been described, is most grievous *oppression* and *robbery*; and I can entertain no scruples about dealing with such action with gloves off! It is no time to mince words.

I admit that Mr. Davis is *my* President, and that the Confederate States is *my* government; and that is precisely my reason for speaking of them, and for wishing the Legislature to address them in terms of rebuke. I have no interest in discussing the conduct of the Czar of Russia, or of the President of the United States. The reason given by the gentleman from Cumberland for excepting the Confederate States, is precisely the reason I would assign for including it. How should we be interested in the domestic concerns of a government that is not *ours*? I should regard it as a poor excuse from a servant whom I should have occasion to reprove, if he were to offer, as a reason for excusing him, the fact of his being *my servant!* I cannot comprehend the pertinency of the objection. No doubt North-Carolina voted for Mr. Davis, and assisted to elect him; and it is for that reason that she regards him as responsible to her for his conduct, and will hold him to that responsibility.

AUCTION AND PRIVATE SALES.

NEGROES At Auction.

ON WEDNESDAY, 28TH DECEMBER, WILL BE sold, in front of our Sales Room, one negro woman, 30 years old, an excellent Washer, Ironer and Seamstress; one negro man, 46 years old, good Field Hand; one woman, 27 years old, with two children.

CROSON & LITCHFORD,
Dec 8-eodtd Auctioneers

Notice.

A NEGRO CHILD, ABOUT TWO YEARS OLD, (girl,) disappeared from my house last Tuesday evening, the property of David Penny, deceased. Said child was named MEREDIAM AMY. Any information respecting said child will be thankfully received and liberally rewarded. Address W A PENNY, Raleigh, N C

Dec 9-tf SETH PENNY.

Notice.

A SPECIAL AGENT WILL LEAVE THIS OFFICE for the Army of Northern Virginia on the 15th instant, for the purpose of conveying such supplies as may be contributed to our soldiers as a Christmas offering by their friends at home. EDWARD WARREN,

Dec 9-d6tw1t Surgeon General North Carolina.

For Rent.

THE LARGE AND PLEASANTLY SITUATED DWELLING HOUSE in the Western Ward, at present occupied by J D Pullen; also the Dwelling occupied by E A Whitaker, and the Coach Shops near the said houses. This property will be rented for the ensuing year at public auction, on THURSDAY, 22d instant, at the store of Messrs Orcutt & Litchford

Possession given January 1st, 1865. Dec 9-eodtd

Standard copy

IMPORTANT Notice.

THERE WILL BE A MEETING OF THE DONORS to the "N C Orphan Endowment Fund" and of the Directors in the basement of the Baptist Church, in this city, on THURSDAY, the 15th of December, at 11 o'clock A M. A full attendance is desirable.

GEO W MORDECAI, President
C F DEANE, Financial Agent Dec 12-3t

COTTON YARNS. COTTON YARNS IN EXCHANGE FOR BEESWAX, TALLOW AND LARD.

I WILL EXCHANGE COTTON YARNS FOR BEESwax, Tallow and Lard, either large or small quantities, or I will pay the highest cash price for the same.

Address, R. T. BERRY,
Nov 10 d3w1f Graham, N. C.

Dec 13-d1f NEWEL & JONDAN'S

At
Christmas CAKES
Mountain CIDER
Mountain APPLES
Mountain BUTTER

For Rent,

THE BRICK STORE AND DWELLING HOUSE on Fayetteville Street adjoining Mr. Jas. M. Towles, is for rent for the ensuing year. T. H. SALBY.

Dec. 5-dtf

SHOT FOR SALE.

IF YOU WANT THE CHEAPEST SHOT IN TOWN call at

Dec 12-3t SMITH'S TIN SHOP.